

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the official action that issued in the present application on June 9, 2009. Claims 1-16 were pending in the application. In the official action, claims 1-16 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1, 5, 7, 11, and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-16 thus remain for consideration.

Applicants submit that claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance and request withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

§101 Rejection

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim 11 has been amended. Applicants submit that the amendment to claim 11 renders the claim compliant with §101. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection under §101 be withdrawn.

§103 Rejections

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamilton (U.S. Patent No. 7,305,357) in view of Iijima et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,816,967) in view of Knee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,769,128).

Applicants submit that the independent claims (claims 1, 5, 7, 11, and 15) are patentable over Hamilton, Iijima, and Knee (collectively "the cited references").

Applicants' invention as recited in claim 1 is directed toward a content distribution system. The claim recites "a content delivery server that broadcasts a data stream for a broadcast program, control information for obtaining data for a broadcast program, and program information," and "a content receiving client that receives the data stream for a broadcast program, the control information for obtaining the broadcast program, and the program information, stores the broadcast

contents, and reproduces the stored broadcast program." The claim further recites that "a server type broadcast content control descriptor is defined as copyright information at the time of content reproduction." (Emphasis supplied.) Supporting disclosure for the emphasized recitation can be found in the specification at, for example, page 16, lines 22-25. Claims 5, 7, 11, and 15 include similar recitations.

The cited references do not disclose the emphasized recitation. Accordingly, Applicants believe that claims 1, 5, 7, 11, and 15 are patentable over the cited references - taken either individually or in combination - on at least this basis.

Further, since dependent claims inherit the limitations of their respective base claims, Applicants believe that dependent claims 2-4, 6, 8-10, 12-14, and 16 are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as discussed in connection with the independent claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (908) 654-5000.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

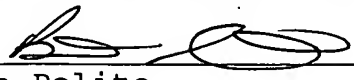
Application No.: 10/520,684

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The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

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Respectfully submitted,

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